

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A device comprising:

-a support comprising a surface comprising an attachment zone (Z) capable of being functionalized with a probe (A) capable of binding to a target (B) so as to attach it;

-a working electrode (WE) and a counterelectrode (CE) for the working electrode, placed on the support in the vicinity of the attachment zone, wherein the working electrode borders or surrounds the attachment zone;

-a space separating said attachment zone and said working electrode; and

-a means for applying a given electric current or a given potential to said working electrode so as to cause, when said attachment zone and said electrodes are immersed in an aqueous solution, a local variation in pH in the region of said attachment zone.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, wherein the working electrode borders or surrounds the attachment zone, and wherein the counterelectrode borders or surrounds said working electrode.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, wherein the working electrode, the counterelectrode and the attachment zone are in a design selected from the group consisting of an interdigitated comb design, a spiral design and a concentric design.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, wherein the means for applying a given electric current or a given potential to said working electrode are means for applying one or more given current or potential train(s) for one or more given period(s) of time.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, further comprising a reference electrode placed so as to be able to measure the potential applied to the working electrode.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, wherein the attachment zone is in the form of an electrode.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 1, wherein the attachment zone is functionalized with the probe (A) capable of binding, according to the pH, to the target (B) so as to attach it.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 7, wherein the probe is capable of binding to the target so as to attach it by an electrophilic or nucleophilic group.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 7, wherein the probe is such that it is capable of binding to the target so as to attach it by an electrophilic group selected from the group consisting of aldehyde, halide, thiocyanate, isocyanate, activated ester, carbamate and epoxide functions.

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 7, wherein the probe is capable of binding to the target so as to attach it by a nucleophilic group selected from the group consisting of amine, alkoxide, phenol, phenate, oxyamine and hydrazine functions.

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 7, wherein the probe is chosen such that it can form, in the working solution, with the target molecule so as to attach it, a bond selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, peptide, amide, sulphonamide, carboxylic acid ester, sulphonic acid ester and substituted silanoate bond.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The device of Claim 7, wherein the attachment zone is functionalized with a probe selected from the group consisting of an oligonucleotide, a protein, an enzyme, an enzyme substrate, a hormone receptor, a hormone, an antibody, an antigen, a eukaryotic cell, a prokaryotic cell, at least one fragment of a prokaryotic cell, an alga and a microscopic fungus.

Claim 13- 26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (New): The device of Claim 1, wherein the attachment zone and the working electrode are coplanar.